

## METAL PRICES

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Silver, 86½¢; lead, 67-10¢; spelter, 7½¢; copper, 23½¢.

# The Ogden Standard.

FEARLESS. INDEPENDENT. PROGRESSIVE NEWSPAPER.

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UTAH—Fair tonight; warmer in west portion; Wednesday increasing cloudiness.

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# ITALIANS HOLDING GROUND

## Austro-Germans Trying To Get Down Valley Leading To Plain

### CITY OF VENICE SAVED

Seventeenth Bersaglieri Drives Enemy From River Foothold.

### HEAVY BOMBARDING

Artillery and Aviation Attacks Continue on the French Front.

ITALIAN HEADQUARTERS IN NORTHERN ITALY, Monday, Dec. 24.—(By the Associated Press.)—Having devoted all their attention last week to trying to get down the San Lorenzo valley leading to the plain, the enemy has suddenly turned his attention in the last 24 hours to the Franzella valley, which gives another line of approach to the lower level.

These valleys lie on opposite sides of the Brenta river with German divisions operating west of the river in an effort to push through the valley of San Lorenzo and the Austrians fighting west of the river in an attempt to effect a penetration by the Franzella valley route.

The latest attack on the west side of the river was preceded by a heavy bombardment. This preparation was followed up by the advance of successive waves of infantry from a large concentration of enemy forces which succeeded in making a few hundred yards progress. The Italians are still contesting the ground, their counter-attack being yet in progress.

### Troops From Russia Seen.

Enemy troops from the Rumanian and Russian fronts have been identified during the latest attacks. It is also established that Austrian troops along the Piave are being shifted to the mountain region with the entire purpose of concentrating all attention on breaking through from the north. The menace to Venice from the recent success of the enemy in one of his numerous attempts to cross the old Piave has now been ended by a brilliant night attack. The Seventeenth Bersaglieri drove the enemy into his foothold on the west bank near the mouth of the river and forced him back across the stream to his old position on the east bank.

### REVIEW OF WAR SITUATION.

America's first war Christmas in many years finds the sons of the United States training in camps here and in France and guarding the ocean lanes from submarines. Today also is the fourth war Christmas for the leading belligerents of Europe and for the first time in hundreds of years Bethlehem and Jerusalem, where occurred the most important events in the life of Him whose natal day it is, are in the hands of Christians.

Military operations are almost at a standstill except on the Italian front where the Austro-Germans persist in their efforts to break the Italian line. The British official press bureau has announced that no further official war statements will be issued until this afternoon.

Last Christmastide the world was



To the People of Ogden

The OGDEN STANDARD

Briefly, we express our gratitude to the patrons of The Standard for their loyal support during the past year. But—

More than that, we thank and congratulate the entire community on the loyal support given the government of the United States, and we select for special mention the parents, the wives and the sweet-hearts of our soldier boys.

And we must not overlook the boys themselves, for they have offered themselves in the supreme sacrifice which is to protect us from enslavement by a ruthless military power.

discussing peace terms offered by the central powers and it is reported that this day also may be marked by a proffer from those countries held in the away off Prussian military autonomy. Peace negotiations between the Bolshevik government of Russia and the central powers have progressed so far that it is declared the Russians today will receive an answer to their terms from the Teutonic allies.

### Kaiser for "Prussian Peace."

Professing a desire for peace which the entente allies say they cannot accept with honor, Emperor William declares to the world that his soldiers must bring a Prussian peace "by battering in with the iron fist and the shining sword the doors of those who will not have peace."

American troops in France have been joined in the celebration of Christmas by French children and they send a message of cheer to those at home. American soldiers and sailors will participate in holiday festivities at various camps in England and France as well as in London and Paris and other cities and seaports.

The political situation in Rumania is said to be disturbed and the Bolshevik authorities in Petrograd have received reports of a revolutionary plot against King Ferdinand. In the territory south of Moscow the Bolsheviks claimed to have defeated 6000 Korniloff troops near Bielgorod. The Bolsheviks are also said to have begun an attack on Kharkov.

### NO MORE ELECTIONS DURING WAR.

PARIS, Monday, Dec. 24.—The chamber of deputies today adopted a resolution extending the terms of all elec-

tive officials in France until the end of the war. No elections will be held in the meantime.

### VIOLENT ARTILLERY FIGHTING.

PARIS, Dec. 25.—The official statement issued by the French war office tonight reads:

"On the right bank of the Meuse the artillery on both sides displayed rather violent activity in the region of Douaumont and before Chaume wood. "Army of the east, December 23: There was little fighting activity along the front on account of fog and snow."

"In southern Albanian in the region of the river Devoli we captured two enemy outposts and 150 men."

### HOUSES OF ILL REPUTE TO CLOSE

ROCK ISLAND, Ill., Dec. 25.—All houses of ill repute and gambling houses in Rock Island will be suppressed tomorrow under orders of the government. The action is taken on account of the close proximity of Rock Island arsenal where several hundred soldiers are stationed.

### BASEBALL TEAM TO TRAIN.

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—The Brooklyn National league baseball team will again go to Hot Springs, Ark. for its spring training, it was announced today. The recruits have been ordered to report there on March 18. A spring tour with the Boston Red Sox has been arranged.

### PLOTS AGAINST KING FERDINAND

Both Bulgaria and Rumania Facing Political Crisis and Possible Revolution.

### KORNILOFF DEFEATED

Bolsheviks Have Begun Attack on Kharkov, 350 Miles South of Moscow.

PETROGRAD, Monday, Dec. 24.—News of a revolutionary plot against King Ferdinand of Bulgaria has been received at the Smolny institute, the Bolshevik headquarters, according to the evening newspapers. There are said also to be disturbed conditions in Rumania. These reports are confirmed in some respects by dispatches received here indicating unsettled conditions and a political crisis.

A Bolshevik dispatch announces that 6000 troops of General Korniloff's command have been defeated near Bielgorod by Bolsheviks. Chiefly soldiers and sailors of the Black and Baltic seas fleets. Many machine guns and much ammunition, it is said, have been captured.

The Bolsheviks have begun an attack on Kharkov, 350 miles south of Moscow. The Bolsheviks control railroads to the south, according to the official news agency, which adds that a telephone message from Moscow declares a large force of Cossacks and railway men has stopped troops from proceeding north of Tzaritzin in the province of Saratov.

The official news agency announces that a semi-official denial has been issued in Stockholm to Russian reports that Sweden is moving troops toward Finland and is massing troops opposite Vassa and the Aland islands.

On December 16 the Bolsheviks announced that General Korniloff's forces had been defeated at Bielgorod, which is about 50 miles north of Kharkov and three days later it was said that General Korniloff had been wounded and that his capture was expected.

There has been little news from Rumania since the Rumanian army was forced to agree to an armistice on the eastern front. It has been reported that Bolshevik and German

propagandists were at work among the Rumanian troops. A few days ago General Stcherbacheff, the Russian commander in Rumania, was reported to have taken command of the Ukrainian forces.

### GOV. BEEKMAN LANDS IN FRANCE

Bears Personal Message of Greeting to American Forces From President Wilson.

AN ATLANTIC PORT, Dec. 25.—Governor R. L. Beekman of Rhode Island who left here the latter part of October to visit the American forces in France and to convey to them a personal message of greeting from President Wilson, arrived here today on a British liner. On the same vessel was William B. Thomas, head of the American Red Cross mission to Russia who is returning to the United States to make a report of the conditions in that country with reference to work of his organization. Thomas W. Lamont, of J. P. Morgan & Co., and Sir Frederick Edward Smith, attorney general for Great Britain, were also among the passengers.

## Turkey, Mince Pie and All Trimmings For Navy Dinner

BASE OF AMERICAN FLOTILLA IN BRITISH WATERS, Dec. 25.—(By the Associated Press.)—Every sailor in the flotilla had a real American Christmas. The sailors ate turkey and mince pie and had all the other trimmings that go with a Christmas dinner. There was music at meal time and a few extra hours off duty and each sailor was happy.

Jackie was a bit angry at Santa Claus at being late with his parcels, letters and cards from the folks back home but he consoled himself with the thought that he will be happy when he finally gets them. The feature of the Christmas celebration was an entertainment at the naval clubhouse. It was staged by American sailors and soldiers from the famous Black Watch

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, Dec. 24.—(By the Associated Press.)—The American expeditionary force tonight capitulated to Santa Claus. With a light snow falling every man in General Pershing's army—"dough boys," cavalrymen, artillerymen, marine engineers, "mule skinner"—stopped work as the sun went down and started in to do the bidding of the jovial saint temporarily in command.

First there was a rush to open the Christmas packages from home, for during the day mail truck after mail truck had arrived in the various towns where the troops are quartered, loaded to the top with presents. The mail arrived at the base port late and extraordinary efforts were made to get to the soldiers promptly. So many a lonely American fighter had had about come to the conclusion that his friends at home had forgotten him, had cause to rejoice. With their new sweaters on, new pipes in their teeth, some of them smoking fragrant cigars, the men of the army then set to work in earnest making it merry for the children of France.

### Christmas Tree for Children.

At some distance from the American zone, the railway engineers at the British front and other engineers at the French front were spending their Christmas eve under fire, but even there the children of nearby neighborhoods were being cared for. It was in the headquarters town of the first division to land on French soil that the most elaborate entertainment was held, however. Because the church there was pretty small, the Y. M. C. A. hut was commandeered. During the afternoon the American officers and men worked hard erecting a gigantic Christmas tree and decorating it while sentries posted outside kept inquisitive youngsters at a safe distance.

Finally the doors were opened and the procession filed in, each little French boy and girl dressed in his or her best and accompanied by the mother or, in the cases of the little refugees, whose mothers and fathers are missing, by the woman who is caring for them.

### Cries of Joy Heard.

There was a tense air of expectancy until the lights were suddenly flashed on and the tree and Santa Claus revealed. The revelation was the signal for a chorus of shrill, joyful cries from the assembled youngsters who were all eyes for the tree with its glittering tinsel set off here and there by the customary red, white, green and purple lights. Cries of "America" and "sentries posted outside kept inquisitive youngsters at a safe distance." French flags were plentifully displayed and from every branch there hung boxes of candy, jumping jacks with candy sticks, drums, dolls and other playthings and a plentiful sprinkling of apples and oranges. Piled high at the base of the tree were many boxes containing toy guns, uniforms, tops, sewing sets, heavy woolen mittens, mufflers, warm coats, dresses and shoes.

### Real Live Santa Claus.

Then the real live Santa Claus, who in reality was none other than the French interpreter at headquarters, stepped out. His springing activity called forth another appreciative chorus from the youngsters and the host of khaki-clad soldiers standing in the rear, some of them still covered with the mud of the training grounds, grinned as they heard the children shout their thanks.

The only reason any soldier of the division was absent from the celebra-

tion was because there wasn't room for him to crowd in. For it was the men themselves who provided the bulk of the money and they naturally were eager to see the children being made happy by the soldiers' gifts. Each of these gifts had been intended to fill as nearly as possible the heart's desire of the child and as quickly as the child's name was called from the box containing the present, the smiling, bashful young children of France walked up and received it. Then Santa Claus' assistants who were certain designated soldiers, distributed the candy, fruit and small toys to all.

There were entertainments of a similar nature throughout the army zone on Christmas eve while the festivities were planned for Christmas day at some places.

The men themselves, in addition to the presents they received from relatives and friends, got many from other sources, such as the Red Cross and the tobacco fund, which latter distributed quantities of "smokes" on behalf of many newspapers in the United States. Despite the fact that there was a turkey famine many of the units managed to purchase a number of these "birds" in France while others who were less fortunate were provided with chicken or goose, so that Christmas promised a day of "big eats" in the zone.

Taken all in all the American army is spending a real American Christmas in France.

## U. S. OFFICERS TOURING FRANCE

Seventeen General Military Men Studying Methods of Training for Present Warfare.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, Monday, Dec. 24.—(By the Associated Press.)—Seventeen general officers have arrived in France from the United States for a tour of the American zone and the British and French and, probably, Italian fronts. When they complete their studies they will return to the United States better equipped, it is believed, to direct the training activities of the national army.

## FINGER PRINTS PROVE TRAGEDY

PEORIA, Ill., Dec. 25.—The theory that during a struggle previous to the fatal shooting in the State Trust & Savings bank here Sunday, Bern M. Mead, slain cashier, had torn loose the collar of E. A. Strauss, president of the bank, was dissipated this morning with the announcement of Chief of Police Rhodes that all finger prints on the collar were Strauss' own. Strauss' collar was open when detectives arrived at the bank following the shooting.

## Extensive Training Quarters Planned for American Flyers

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, Monday, Dec. 24.—(By the Associated Press.)—Extensive training quarters will be established in England and France for a corps of several thousand mechanics to repair and care for the machines of American airmen. Washington has been asked to send England 13,000 bricklayers and carpenters and also a large number of laborers for construction work at the training quarters. When the work in England is completed the construction men will come to France to build quarters here.

It is inadvisable to mention the number of men who will be trained in England. It is sufficient that the army is determined to have more than enough efficient men available for America's success in the air will depend primarily upon this corps of mechanics.

Flying schools for Italian aviators are to be established in the United States for two purposes. First, the conditions in certain sections of the United States are better than in Italy, and second, the utilization of training

airplanes and equipment in the United States will save the tonnage involved in transportation to this side. Expeditionary headquarters has recommended that the American government provide for the construction of schools, the manufacture of airplanes and engines on Italian models and the feeding and housing of skilled pilots and students. The expense is to be met by Italy at a price to be determined later. It is planned to have the program become effective in the middle of 1918.

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